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EXAMINER	
DEBROW, JAMES J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/698,089	BHATT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JAMES J. DEBROW	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 February 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *22 Feb. 2008*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed on 22 Feb. 2008.

Claims 1-26 are pending in the case. Claims 1, and 10, are independent claims.

Applicant's Response

In Applicant's response dated 22 Feb. 2008, applicant amended added new claims 25 and 26; argued against rejections previously set forth in previous Office Action.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed 02 Feb. 2008 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; (2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section **separately** from citations of other documents; (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10, 11, 13-15 and 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kesler (Pat. No.: US 7,062,502 B1; Filed Dec. 28, 2001).

In regards to independent claims 1 and 10, Kesler discloses *a method of generating an electronic report from a list view displaying data objects that each comprise a plurality of fields and corresponding attributes for the fields, the method comprising* (col. 40, lines 34-37)*:*

providing, in a first application, a list view of data objects, the list view displaying an object field and an attribute for at least one of the data objects (col. 13, lines 4-39; Figs. 7, 35, 37 and 78; Kesler discloses a user interface with a data display that is list driven. The UI displays a list view displaying an object field and an attribute for at least one of the data objects.).

receiving a user selection of at least one object field (col. 13, lines 47-52; Kesler discloses data entry and navigation functions are accessed through dynamically

constructed menus. Menus are generated from data list by right-mouse clicking on the list or using the CTRL-M key combination on the keyboard.).

generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report, the tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field (col. 29, lines 51-58; "Reports" in Table 21; Kesler discloses exporting a data list to one of several file formats using an export wizard and generating a custom report. Kesler further disclose a Component Object model (COM) interface that provides for communication between the user interface and external software components. Thus Kesler inherently discloses generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report.).

launching, after generating the output file, the external reporting application and generating the tabulated report using the launched external reporting application, the tabulated report comprising, the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field (col. 37, line 50- col. 38, line 46; "Reports" in Table 21; Kesler discloses a Component Object model (COM) interface that provides for communication between the user interface and external software components.).

In regards to dependent claims 2 and 11, Kesler discloses *receiving a user selection of the external reporting application* (col. 37, line 50- col. 38, line 46; "Reports" in Table 21; col. 40, lines 34-37; Kesler discloses a Component Object model (COM) interface that provides for communication between the user interface and external software components, which is used to generate customs reports.).

In regards to dependent claims 4 and 13, Kesler discloses *displaying a view of the list view and wherein the tabulated report is triggered from the view of the list view* (col. 13, lines 4-39; col. 40, lines 34-37; Figs. 7, 35, 37 and 78; Kesler discloses a user interface with a data display that is list driven. The UI displays a list view displaying an object field and an attribute for at least one of the data objects. The display is presented to the user in tabulated form.).

In regards to dependent claims 5 and 14, Kesler discloses *wherein the data objects for the list view are retrieved from a database according to a search feature prior to displaying the view of the list view* (col. 9, line 1-col. 12, line 65; col. 40, lines 34-37; Kesler discloses the using Structured Query Language (SQL) statements to retrieve data from the database for display. It has been established and is well known in the art that SQL statements retrieves data from a database according to a search feature prior to displaying the view of the list view.).

In regards to dependent claims 6 and 15, Kesler discloses *the method of claim 1 wherein the output file includes the selected at least one object field and the corresponding attributes* (col. 29, lines 51-58; "Reports" in Table 21; col. 40, lines 34-37; Kesler discloses exporting a data list to one of several file formats using an export wizard and generating a custom report.).

In regards to dependent claims 19 and 22, Kesler discloses *providing the list view of data objects comprises displaying at least a portion of the data objects in a table* (col. 13, lines 4-39; col. 40, lines 34-37; Figs. 7, 35, 77 and 79; Kesler discloses a user interface with a data display that is list driven. The UI displays a list view displaying an object field and an attribute for at least one of the data objects.).

In regards to dependent claims 20 and 23, Kesler discloses *receiving the user selection of the at least one object field comprises displaying a selection dialog box that includes the at least one object field and receiving a user selection of the at least one object field from the selection dialog box* (col. 13, lines 4-39; col. 40, lines 34-37; Figs. 7, 35, 77 and 79; Kesler discloses a user interface with a data display that is list driven. The UI displays a list view displaying an object field and an attribute for at least one of the data objects.).

In regards to dependent claims 21 and 24, Kesler discloses *receiving the user selection of the at least one object field comprises receiving an indication of a user selection of the object field in the list view* (col. 13, lines 47-52; col. 40, lines 34-37; Kesler discloses data entry and navigation functions are accessed through dynamically constructed menus. Menus are generated from data list by right-mouse clicking on the list or using the CTRL-M key combination on the keyboard.).

In regards to dependent claims 25 and 26, Kesler discloses *the method of claim 1, wherein the list view of data objects displays a plurality of object fields and attributes for at least one of the data objects, and the received user selection of at least one object field represents a subset of the plurality of object fields* (col. 10, lines 3-28; col. 38, lines 32-35; Fig. 71; Kesler discloses a component object model interfaces such as Microsoft Access is used to generate high quality reports within the user interface. Kesler further discloses searching is performed against view column rather than table fields. It has been established and is well known in the art that Microsoft Access typically displays a plurality of object fields (column) and attributes for at least one of the data object wherein the user is capable of selecting of at least one object field (column) represents a subset of the plurality of object fields. Thus Kesler inherently discloses wherein the list view of data objects displays a plurality of object fields and attributes for at least one of the data objects, and the received user selection of at least one object field represents a subset of the plurality of object fields.).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2123.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 7, 12 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kesler in view of Evans et al. (Pub. No.: US 2004/0019560 A1; Filed Dec. 23, 2002) (hereinafter 'Evans').

In regards to dependent claims 3 and 12, Kesler does not expressly disclose *wherein the user selection of the external reporting application is selected from the group consisting of Microsoft.RTM. Excel and HTML.*

However, Evans teaches *wherein the user selection of the external reporting application is selected from the group consisting of Microsoft.RTM. Excel and HTML* (0158; Evans teaches customized reports can be created using applications such as Microsoft.RTM. Excel and HTML*).*

Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art the combine Kesler with Evans for the benefit of gathering and manipulating data to create highly customized reports (0158).

In regards to dependent claims 7 and 16, Kesler does not expressly disclose *the method of claim 1 wherein the output file is an ActiveX Data Object Recordset.*

However, Evans teaches *the method of claim 1 wherein the output file is an ActiveX Data Object Recordset* (0047; 0117-0119; 0159; Evans teaches ActiveX is supported mainly by Microsoft Internet Explorer, which is capable of opening pages/files/reports containing ActiveX to upload files on a server.).

Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art the combine Kesler with Evans for the benefit of gathering and manipulating data to create highly customized reports (0158).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2123.

Claims 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kesler in view of Bowman-Amuah (Patent No.: 6,615,253 B1; Filing Date: August 31, 1999).

In regards to dependent claims 8 and 17, Kesler does not expressly disclose *wherein generating the output file that the external reporting application can use to generate the tabulated report further comprises transferring the output file to a*

reporting-tool-specific interface component capable of plug-and-play interaction with the external reporting application.

However, Bowman-Amuah teaches *wherein generating the output file that the external reporting application can use to generate the tabulated report further comprises transferring the output file to a reporting-tool-specific interface component capable of plug-and-play interaction with the external reporting application* (column 43, lines 52-56; column 309, lines 48-51; Bowman-Amuah teaches a plug-in (plug-and-play) is a software program that is specifically written to be executed within a browser for the purpose of providing additional functionality that is not natively supported by the browser (external reporting applications), such as viewing and playing unique data (tabulated report) or media types. Bowman-Amuah further discloses a computer program containing code segments, which when executed on a computer performs efficient data retrieval, the computer program being embodied on a computer readable medium.).

Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art the combine Kesler with Bowman-Amuah for the benefit of efficiently retrieving data (col. 1, lines 21-22).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon

for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2123.

Claims 9, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kesler in view of Grasso et al. (Pat. No.: 5,892,909; Filed Jan. 31, 1997) (hereinafter 'Grasso').

In regards to dependent claims 9 and 18, Kesler does not expressly disclose *wherein the launched external reporting application generates the tabulated report.*

However, Grasso teaches *wherein the launched external reporting application generates the tabulated report* (col. 15, lines 49-61; Grasso teaches the user identifies the application used to create the content of the distribution *(report).* After the primary application *(external reporting application)* is chosen, the system automatically makes available other native formats for a particular application. In an exemplary embodiment, MS-Word, MS-Power-point, and MS-Excel are supported. It has been established and it well known in the art that MS-Excel typically generates tabulated report.).

Therefore at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kesler with Grasso for the benefit of each application being mapped to one or more formats that will be contained in the distribution *(report)* (col. 15, lines 55-56).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to

be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2123.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 02 Feb. 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues "*Kesler does not disclose or suggest "receiving a user selection of at least one object field," and "generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report... [that] include[s] the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field," as recited in claim 1.* (Remarks page 8)

The Examiner disagree.

Kesler discloses a component object model interfaces such as Microsoft Access is used to generate high quality reports within the user interface. Kesler further discloses searching is performed against view column rather than table fields. It has been established and is well known in the art that Microsoft Access typically displays a plurality of object fields (column) and attributes for at least one of the data object wherein the user is capable of selecting of at least one object field (column) represents a subset of the plurality of object fields (col. 10, lines 3-28; col. 38, lines 32-35; Fig. 71). Thus Kesler inherently disclose receiving a user selection of at least one object field,"

and "generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report which includes the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James J. Debrow whose telephone number is 571-272-5768. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Stephen S. Hong/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2178

JAMES DEBROW
EXAMINER
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